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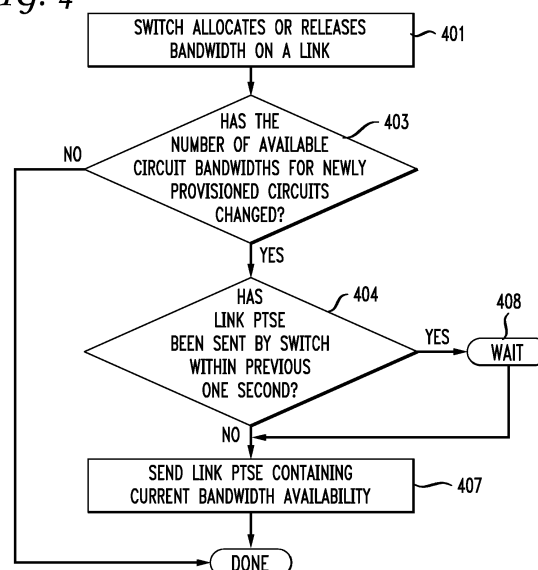
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(54) **Transmitting available bandwidth messages in a communication network**

(57) Switches within a telecommunications network exchange so-called available bandwidth messages, each of which advertises how much bandwidth remains unassigned on a respective link. The network is of a type in which circuits are provisioned with various predefined

numbers of time slots (equivalent to bandwidth). The sending of an available bandwidth message for a given link is triggered by a change in the number of time slots available on that link if that change results in a change in the number of circuit bandwidths that can be accommodated by that link for a newly provisioned circuit.

FIG. 4





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	CHANG B-J ET AL: "Analysis of adaptive cost functions for dynamic update policies for QoS routing in hierarchical networks" INFORMATION SCIENCES, ELSEVIER, vol. 151, May 2003 (2003-05), pages 1-26, XP002448015 ISSN: 0020-0255 * page 2 - page 4, line 11 * * page 11, paragraph 3.3 * * page 12 - page 14 *	1,6,7,17	INV. H04Q3/66 H04L12/56
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X	WO 95/18498 A (IBM) 6 July 1995 (1995-07-06) * page 7, line 10 - page 11, line 2 * -----	1,6,17	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			H04Q H04L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 24 August 2007	Examiner Vercauteren, Steven
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

